

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S. 693**

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TO:	The Honorable Harvey S. Peeler, Chairman, Senate Medical Affairs Committee		
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	R.J. Stein		
DATE:	April 8, 2008	SBD:	2008191

AUTHOR:	Senator McConnell	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	40-47-30
SUBJECT:	Physician Licensing		

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

BILL SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 693 amends Sections 40-47-30, -32 and -35 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, relating to the licensing of physicians. The Bill allows a physician to delegate certain tasks to an unlicensed person provided that the physician is immediately available. The Bill declares that a South Carolina physician is not prohibited from consulting with another physician in regard to the care of a patient in this State. The Bill reduces from 10 to 5 the number of years a physician who graduated from a medical school outside the U.S. must have been actively licensed in another state so as to qualify for the reduced post-graduate training requirement. The Bill adds that for medical specialties that do not require re-certification by examination, physicians must have taken 75% of the 150-hour continuing education course requirement in their specialty. The Bill also provides that rather than the Board of Medical Examiners licensing a physician as an expert witness, a physician (in-state or out-of-state) who testifies in a proceeding is deemed to have submitted to the jurisdiction of the Board and is subject to investigation if a complaint is filed.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

The Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation report that the Bill would have no impact on the State General Fund or on Federal and/or Other funds.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

None.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:



Harry Bell
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget